

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LUSAKA 01309 161220Z
ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SS-15 SP-02 INR-07 NSC-05
CIAE-00 SSO-00 INRE-00 NSCE-00 /052 W
-----161242Z 017687 /40 S

O 161134Z MAY 77
FM AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 5644
INFO AMCONSUL CAPETOWN IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY GABORONE IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LISBON IMMEDIATE
USMISSION GENEVA IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L LUSAKA 1309

CAPETOWN FOR EMBASSY

LISBON FOR VICE PRESIDENT'S PARTY

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR ZA RH UK US
SUBJ: KAUNDA PRESS CONFERENCE ON RHODESIAN THREAT AND
CONSULTATIVE GROUP

REF: LUSAKA 1303 AND 1305

1. KAUNDA GAVE PRESS CONFERENCE MONDAY MORNING, MAY 16,
ON SMITH'S THREAT OF PREEMPTIVE ATTACK AGAINST ZAMBIA.
HW WAS CRITICAL OF THE BRITISH AND TOOK THE OCCASION TO READ
BOTH DAVID OWEN'S NOTE OF WARNING TO HIM AND CALLAGHAN'S SUB-
SEQUENT LETTER WHICH WAS RECEIVED LAST NIGHT EXPLAINING THAT
OWEN'S NOTE WAS OFFICIAL HMG DOCUMENT BUT ADDING THAT HE HAD
WARNED RHODESIANS AGAINST ANY PREEMPTIVE ATTACK. KAUNDA ALSO
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MENTIONED HE MAY HAVE TO PASS UP THE COMMONWEALTH CONFERENCE
IF THE MILITARY SITUATION DEMANDS HIS PRESENCE HERE.

2. KAUNDA SAID US-BRITISH CONSULTATIVE GROUP WAS FREE TO USE
LUSAKA BUT ANNOUNCED THAT ALL FLIGHTS BETWEEN ZAMBIA AND RHODESIA
WOULD FORTHWITH BE BANNED AND NOTED, THEREFORE, THAT THE GROUP
WOULD HAVE TO MOVE IN SOME OTHER WAY BETWEEN LUSAKA AND SALISBURY.

3. KAUNDA ALSO WARNED THAT HE WOULD CONTINUE TO BACK THE FIGHTING FULLY AND THAT IT PROVIDED THE PRESSURE WHICH MUST GO HAND IN HAND WITH ANY NEGOTIATING EFFORT. HE SAID HE WOULD ACCEPT NO ONE WHO ASKED FOR AN END TO THE FIGHTING BUT ON THE CONTRARY SUPPORTED ITS ESCALATION.

4. COMMENT: KAUNDA WAS CLEARLY MAKING THE MOST OF THE BRITISH WARNING TO STIMULATE SYMPATHY AND SUPPORT. HE UNDOUBTEDLY HAD HIS EYE ON THE MAPUTO CONFERENCE AND THE IMAGE HE WAS PROJECTING OF THE EFFORTS AND SACRIFICE HE WAS MAKING IN THE CAUSE OF ZAIMBABWEAN INDEPENDENCE. NEITHER WE NOR THE BRITISH FEEL THAT THE BAN ON DIRECT CHARTER AIR TRAVEL TO RHODESIA WILL GREATLY INHIBIT THE CONSULTATIONS. THE FLAP OVER OWEN'S MESSAGE HAS PROBABLY BEEN PASSED BUT THE DANGER OF ESCALATION OF FIGHTING ON THE ZAMBIAN FRONTIER REMAINS.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS CONFERENCES, NEGOTIATIONS, TRAVEL CONTROLS, NATIONAL SECURITY THREATS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 16-May-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977LUSAKA01309
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770173-0221
Format: TEL
From: LUSAKA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770553/aaaabtxp.tel
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Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
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Message ID: d8204693-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
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Retention: 0
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Status: NATIVE
Subject: KAUNDA PRESS CONFERENCE ON RHODESIAN THREAT AND CONSULTATIVE GROUP
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